

## **WORSHIP**

**1.3.21**

### ***Epiphany Sunday***

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Some have asked about in person worship. The Jefferson County Covid Dial remains at “Level Red, Severe Risk.” Until it changes to “Level Yellow, Concern” as stated in the letter your church board sent out in October, we will be live-streaming our Sunday morning worship and meeting on Zoom, telephone, or outside for our various small groups. Thanks to the church board for their faithful leadership during this difficult time. And thank you to you, the church, for your steadfast attendance and giving.
- If weather remains pleasant with above normal temperatures, look for a “Sidewalk Communion” sometime in the near future. This in person, outside gathering for communion would take the place of our livestream for that week. I’ll keep you posted!

Today is Epiphany Sunday! The term epiphany means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." In Western churches, it remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

#### **MATTHEW 2:1-12**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

#### **WORSHIP - STEVE SMITH**

*Joy to the World*

*Go Tell It On the Mountain*

### **TODAY'S MESSAGE - PASTOR SHARI PALMER - LUKE 2:15-21**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (People respond with "Hear our prayer")**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. (Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (EUCCHARIST)**

#### **CONFESSION**

Let us now pray the prayer of confession together.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

### **PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

On the night he was betrayed our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling your son's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Set them apart by your Holy Spirit to be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Set us apart also that we may faithfully receive this holy sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace until the day of your coming. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, let us pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The gifts of God for the people of God. The Body Christ, the bread of heaven. (Take & eat) The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation (Take & drink)

### **BENEDICTION**

*The Blessing*